

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

5 Claim 1 has been amended to require that the support members have top surfaces which lie in a single horizontal plane which is higher than the upper surface of the pedestal base. Basis for this amendment is on page 13, lines 23-30, and in claim 11, which has been amended in consequence..

10 Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of amended claim 1, and has been further limited to specify that the spaced-apart wall members are connected to each other only by the support members. Basis for this amendment is on page 15, lines 24-26 and Figures 44-46.

15 Like claim 1, claims 17 and 18 have been amended to specify that when a straight support member is fitted into each pair of channels, all the support members lie in the same horizontal plane.

 Claim 20 has been canceled.

20 New claims 21-25, dependent on claim 7, and new claim 26, dependent on claim 1, have been added. Claims 21-25 are readable upon the elected species. Basis for these new claims is in claims 11-13; claim 15 and page 16, lines 7-15; and page 13, line 27, to page 14, line 2.

25 **The Rejection under 35 USC 102**

 Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1 and 7 under 35 USC 102 over US patent 3,858 495 (hereinafter Gotwalt), insofar as the rejection is applicable to

30 the amended claims, for the following reasons.

As noted above, claims 1 and 7 now require that the support members have top surfaces which lie in a single horizontal plane which is higher than the upper surface of the pedestal base. In Gotwalt, the top surfaces of the skewers 36 lie in a plane below the upper surface of the notched sides, and/or, if the skewers comprise the optional flats 62, do not lie in a single horizontal plane. Claim 7 is still further distinguished from Gotwalt by the requirement that the pedestal base comprises spaced-apart wall members which are connected to each other only by the support members

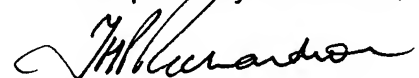
Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

Claim 1 is a generic claim, encompassing all the different species identified by the Examiner. It is submitted, therefore, that if the Examiner agrees that claim 1 is patentable, all of the claims which are now withdrawn should be rejoined and allowed.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, however, there are any outstanding issues that could usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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